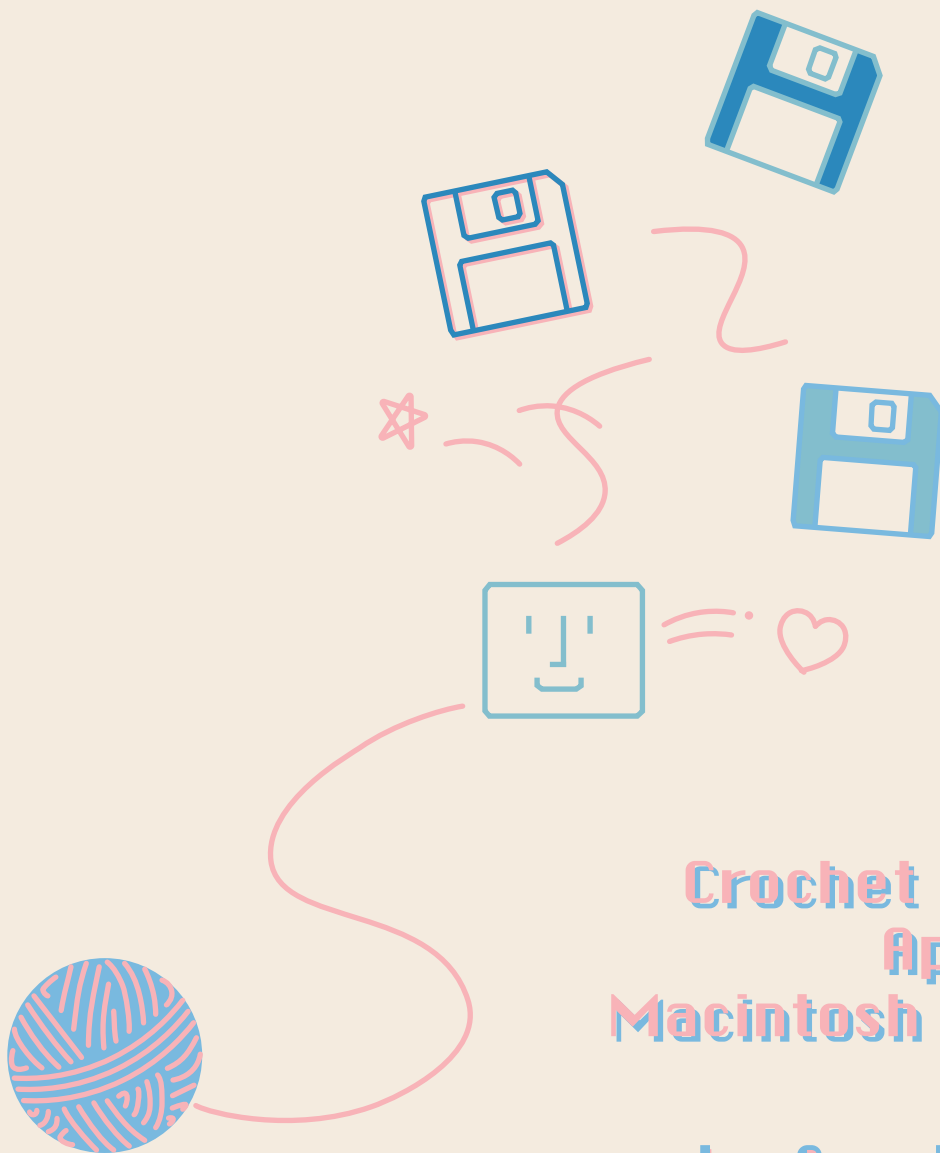
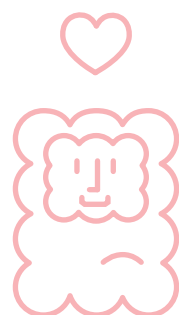


soft computers



**Crochet Patterns:
Apple IIe &
Macintosh Classic II**

**~by Sarah Rooney
~for Media Archaeology Lab**





“What do we mean by the web of the mid 90's and when did it end? To be blunt it was bright, rich, personal, slow, and under construction. It was a web of sudden connections and personal links. Pages were built on the edge of tomorrow, full of hope for a faster connection and a more powerful computer.”

- Olia Lialina, A Vernacular Web

In her early 2000's piece “A Vernacular Web”, net.artist and theorist Olia Lialina uses the words “bright, rich, personal, slow, and under construction” to describe the Internet of the 1990's. If you're picking up this publication of crochet patterns, you might already know crochet in a similar way to Lialina's words; it is slow, ever-evolving, and has years of personal and collective history layered into every hand-crafted pattern. What happens, then, when a personal computer is made out of crochet? How does the material translation from plastic to yarn change how a user interacts with an object?

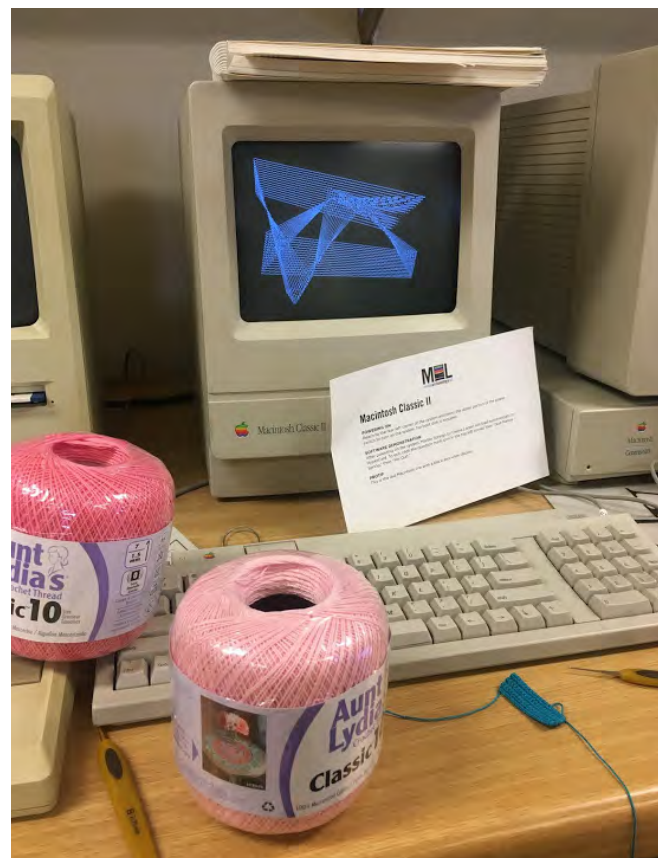
Lialina's description of the bright, rich, and personal web indicates a powerful ethos of amateur curiosity and experimental outlook that she argues were embedded into the aesthetic choices of early Internet users; this was the Internet of Geocities and starry night sky backgrounds, after all. As technology progressed into the late 2010's, the Internet left this sentiment of a vibrant, user-pioneered digital expansion behind in favor of a more standardized, corporate one. Now, I would say opposing descriptors to Lialina's are more fitting—perhaps “structured,” “fast,” “ubiquitous.” Do these words also begin to describe the very machines we use to access the Internet? How do they change our perceptions of and relationships with our personal computers? These questions are grounded in how I navigate my own digital objects in ways that interrogate both intention and design.

The objects I'm sharing here aren't active; they cannot be turned on, and they cannot access the Internet. They do, however, mimic the shape of machines of Apple's past. Machines that, through their design, were embedded with specific ideologies that prompted interpersonal user interactions that are

lesser seen, maybe even nonexistent, in the personal computers of today.

The Apple IIe was a unique computer to experience at the Media Archaeology Lab because of its lack of a GUI (graphical user interface). Instead, it presented you with a monitor and terminal, a keyboard, and a couple of instructional floppy disks that Apple authored with the newbie computer user in mind. These lessons were Apple's way of teaching their users how to not only use the Apple IIe, but how to navigate computers in general with confidence. The Macintosh Classic II, meanwhile, had a GUI, so it had a bit more familiar of a feel than the Apple IIe. However, the rudimentariness of the machine was still present—the chunky graphics, the smiling pixel art drawing of the machine that users were greeted with upon startup. This gave the computer, along with its unique shape, a life and a personality. It was happy to be there, and happy to see you there, too.

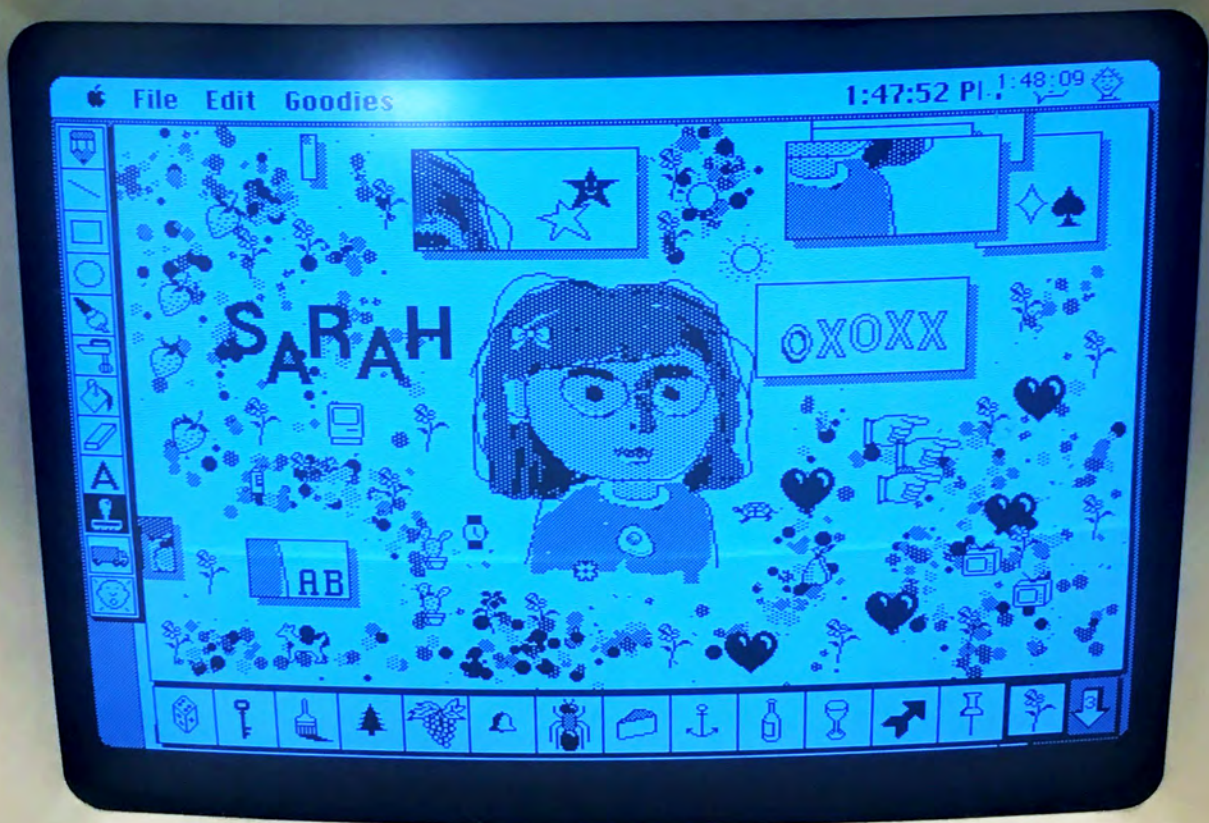
Hopefully, through this booklet, I can teach you how to crochet some of Apple's most iconic computers. Through the translation of hard object to soft object, I hope to inspire computer users to “look under the hood” of their own machines—to examine their wares and investigate how they are unique in inspiring, or discouraging, digital autonomy.





Apple's introductory floppy disk to the Apple IIe and computers in general. In their words, it's to "give you the tools, the terminology, and the hands-on experience to tackle the next step--learning to use an application program, learning to write programs, or both."

Playing with Kid Pix on the Macintosh Classic II. This software's variety of brushes, stickers, and painting effects outrivals even my favorite childhood digital painting applications!



Apple IIe



Apple IIe



Apple IIe pattern

Monitor Body size 4 (medium) yarn and 2.25mm hook

Ch 22

row 1 Sc in the second stitch, 20Sc, ch1 to turn. (21)

row 2-4 21Sc, ch1 to turn.

row 5 21Sc, crochet around circumference: 4sc, INC (corner), 20sc, INC (corner), 4sc, INC (corner). 20Sc, 1Sc. (55)

row 6-24 BLOSc 55.

row 25 55Sc and 3Sc.

Sl. Cut yarn. Including the Sl, count 26 stitches from Sl clockwise. Connect yarn to the 26th stitch.

row 26 BLOSc 21.

row 27-29 Ch1 to turn. 21Sc

row 30 21Sc, Sl

Cut yarn with a long end to use for sewing.

Stuff the body!



Back of Monitor

Ch16

row 1 Sc in the second stitch, 14Sc, ch1 to turn. (15)

row 2-13 15Sc, ch1 to turn.

row 14 15Sc, then crochet along the left, bottom, and right edges: 13sc, INC (corner), 13sc, INC (corner), 13sc, 1sc into first sc of row 14. (58 total)

row 15-22 58BLOSc in each sc around.

row 23 58Sc around, 3Sc.

Stitch the back onto the monitor and stuff it.

*make sure you mark your starting stitch of row 1 with a pin to keep track of your progress!



Monitor Bottom

row 1 With front of monitor facing you and bottom side of it facing up, attach your yarn to the stitch 1 row up and 3 stitches in from the right. Slip stitch in a vertical line until you reach the end of the back of the monitor (about 13 stitches). Continue in this fashion around circumference of monitor. (~ 55Sl, check photo for ref). When you reach 55 Sl, attach the two perpendicular meeting points: insert hook into first stitch of row 1 and slip stitch.



Monitor Bottom continued

row 2 BLOSc around the stitches you just made: 12BLOSc, INC (corner), 12BLOSc, INC (corner), 12BLOSc, INC (corner), 15 BLOSc, 2 BLOSc.

row 3 59BLOSc.

row 4 59BLOSc. 2Sc. Sl. Cut the yarn.

Including slip stitch, count 21 stitches clockwise. Attach yarn into 22nd stitch.

row 5 17BLOSc

row 6-17 Ch1 to turn, 16Sc.

Stuff and sew closed.



Screen

Ch 17

row 1 Sc in the second stitch, 15 Sc, Ch1 to turn.

row 2-13 16Sc. Ch1 to turn.

row 14 16Sc. Crochet the whole circumference: 13Sc, INC (corner), 14Sc, INC (corner), 14Sc, INC (corner), 16Sc, Sl.

Yarn through and cut yarn.

Before you sew the screen onto the computer body, now would be a good time to embroider some designs onto it!

When you're done embroidering or you decide not to, sew the screen onto the computer body.



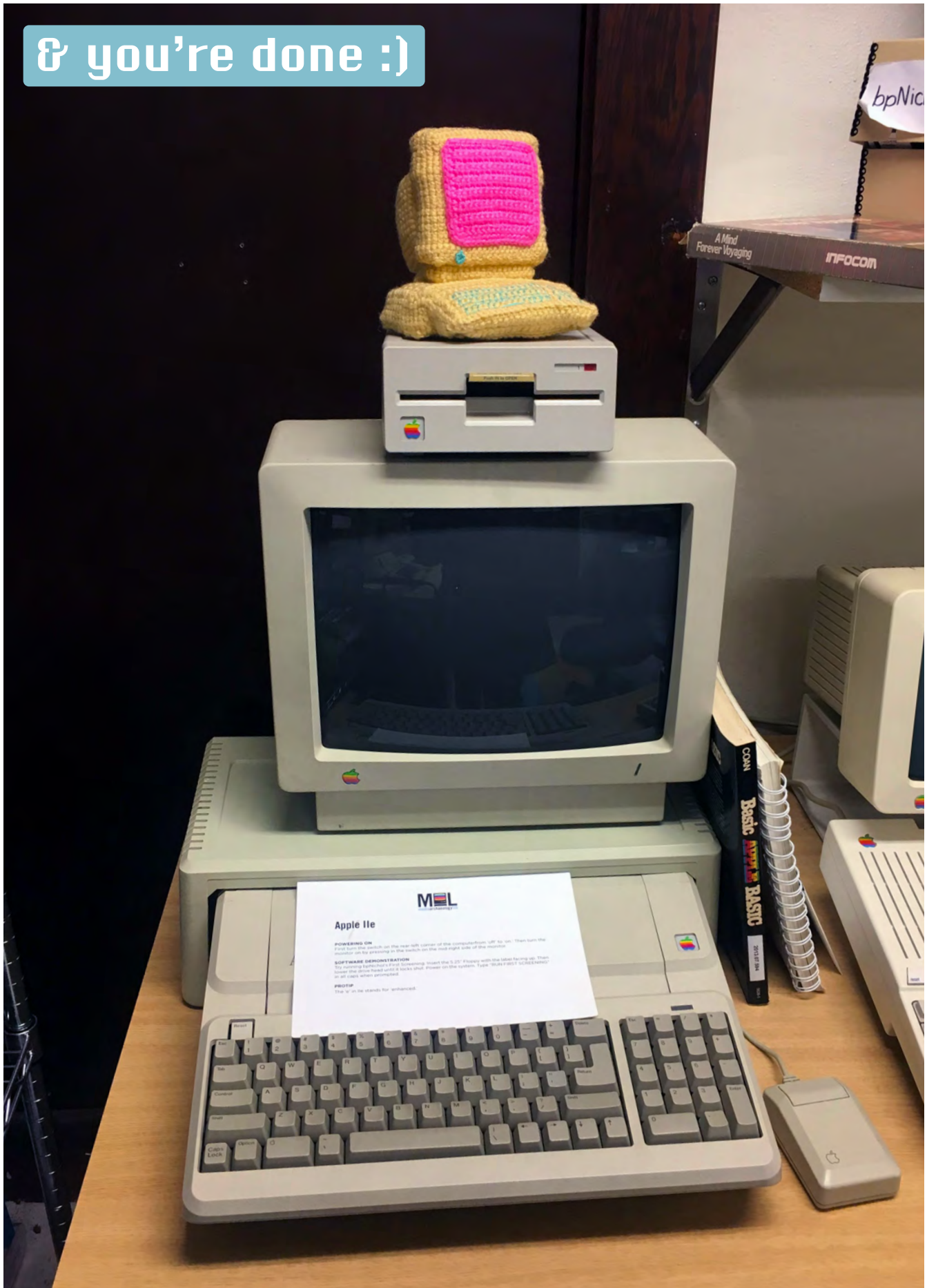
Little Apple logo 3 pieces of embroidery floss as yarn, .75mm hook

Ch 8

Slip stitch into first chain so you have a round. Make sure it's fairly tight. Yarn through and cut.

I then used embroidery floss and a needle to sew through the middle of the crochet circle and over the crochet, almost making a donut around the crochet circle, until the shape became solid.

& you're done :)



Macintosh Classic II



Macintosh Classic II



Macintosh Classic II pattern

Body size 4 (medium) yarn and 2.25mm hook

Ch 21

row 1 Sc in the second stitch and 19Sc. Ch1 to turn. (20 total)

row 2-17 20Sc. Ch1 to turn.

row 18 Ch1 to turn and 20Sc. Crochet whole circumference: 17sc, INC (corner), 19Sc, INC (corner), 17Sc. 1Sc into the first stitch of row 18.

row 19-23 77BLOSc.

row 24-25 20FPSc. Ch1 to turn.

row 26-27 20Sc. Ch1 to turn.

row 28 20FLOSc. 4Sc into side of ledge. 57BLOSc. 4Sc into side of ledge.



Body continued

row 29 20FLOSc, 65BLOSc.

row 30-41 85BLOSc. (It's a good idea to put a marker into your first stitch of row 30 at this point to keep track of your rows and stitches).

row 42 21BLOSc21. DEC 1. 60BLOSc. DEC 1. (83 total)

row 43-45 83BLOSc.

row 46 41BLOSc. 6BLOSc.

row 47-50 Ch1 to turn crochet. 6Sc.

row 51 5Sc down the left perimeter of the protrusion we just made.

row 52 9Sc along 45th row.
6BLOSc.

row 53-56 Ch 1 to turn. 6Sc.

row 57 5Sc down the left perimeter of the protrusion we just made.
21BLOSc.



Body continued 2

row 58 39BLOSc. INV DEC 1. Slip stitch into the last st of row 47. Continue 6sl across row 47. 9Sc. 7Sl across next flap. INV DEC 1. 20BLOSc.



row 59 37BLOSc. INV DEC 1. Slip stitch into corresponding row on flap. Sl 6 across flap and 1 row down so you can easily reach the row of 9 sc's. 9Sc. Sl into corresponding row on flap and sl 7 across. Sl down one row. INV DEC 1. 18BLOSc.

row 60 36BLOSc. INV DEC 1. Sl into corresponding row on flap. Sl 7 across flap. Sl 2 rows down. INC in the corner of the flap. sc 9 across. INC in corner of the next flap. Sl into first stitch on corresponding row of next flap. Sl 7 across flap. Sl again into the edge of flap to get closer to row 59's last 18 stitches. INV DEC 1 on main row. BLOSc 17.

row 61 35BLOSc. INV DEC 1. Slip stitch into corresponding row on flap. Slip stitch 6 across flap. Sl 3 rows down. INC. 1Sc. 9Sc. 1Sc. INC. Slip stitch into first stitch of corresponding row on next flap. Sl stitch 6 across. INV DEC. BLOSC 16. Don't cut your yarn.

Top of Body

row 1 20BLOSc.

row 2-7 Ch1 to turn. 21Sc.

row 8 Ch1 to turn. Sc 6. BLOSc 9. Sc 6.

row 9-15 Ch1 to turn. Sc 6.

row 16 Ch1. 8Sc down
circumference.

row 17 9Sc.

row 18-21 Ch1 to turn. 9Sc.

row 22 Ch1. 6Sc down
circumference.

row 23 6Sc.

row 24-29 Ch1 to turn. 6Sc.
7Sc down circumference.
Yarn through and cut the yarn.



Top of Body continued

Start stuffing it now with polyfill!

Sew the two most outer edges to the rest of the body to close those seams.



With the back of the computer body facing you, take a new piece of yarn and attach it to the right side of the flat middle section, with enough space to sc 9 across (bottom left photo for ref.)

row 1-3 9Sc. Ch1 to turn.

row 4 9Sc. Yarn through. Cut the yarn.
Sew the two ends together.



Top of Body continued

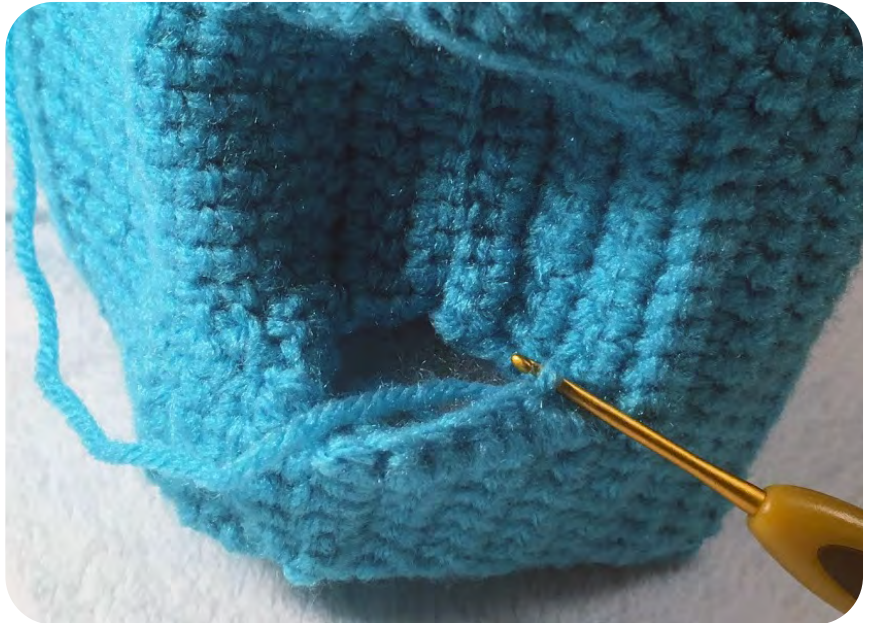
With top of computer facing you, attach your hook to the innermost stitch (see picture for reference).

row 1 7Sc. Ch1 to turn.

row 2 5Sc. Yarn through and cut yarn.

Sew around the edges to attach. Do this for both sides.

Sew everything shut so there are no holes in the top of the computer.



Screen

Ch 16

row 1 Sc in the second stitch, 14 Sc, Ch1 to turn.

row 2-10 15Sc. Ch1 to turn.

row 11 15Sc. Crochet the whole circumference: 10Sc, INC (corner), 13Sc, INC (corner), 10Sc, INC (corner), 13Sc, sl.

If you want to embroider something onto the screen, do it now. After, sew the screen onto the computer body.



Floppy disk spot

Ch 9.

Leave long yarn ends on either side of the chain.

Push your crochet hook through the side of the computer and use it to sew the chain's long ends into the inside of the computer. This will hold the chain in place. Sew down the middle of the chain with thread and a needle so that it's extra secure.



thread yarn
through body

& you're done :)







mediaarchaeologylab.com